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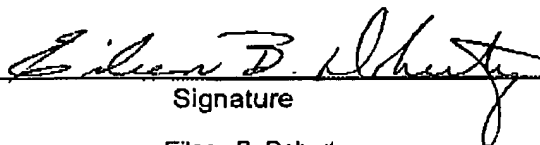
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10/713800

CH2893USNA

Response to Restriction Requirement

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

YUKIYOSHI SUNADA ET. AL.

CASE NO.: CH2893USNA

APPLICATION NO.: 10/713800

GROUP ART UNIT: 1772

FILED: NOVEMBER 14, 2003

EXAMINER: MICHAEL C. MIGGINS

FOR: FLUID CONDUIT AND PROCESS THEREFOR

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

By Office Action dated September 19, 2005, the above-referenced application has been made subject to a requirement to restrict. Examiner asserts that Claims 8 and 13 (Group I) in which the silicon compound is a silicate or organosilane with the recited formulas are directed to a patentably distinct species from that of Claims 10 and 13 (Group II) in which the silicon compound is among a list of compounds. Examiner requested Applicants to elect a single disclosed species as between Claims of Group I and Group II.

Application No.: 10/713800

Docket No.: CH2893USNA

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Election

Applicants hereby elect Group I, Claims 8 and 13, with traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on claims of Group II should the restriction requirement be made final, and the claims of Group II not rejoined.

In electing Group I, claims that are readable on claims of Group I, begin with Claim 8 and further include Claims 9, 13, and 14. Claims that are readable on Claims of Group II, begin with Claim 10 and further include Claims 11, and 15-18. Applicants agree with Examiner that Claim 1 is a generic claim. Claims 2-7 and 12 do not further define the silicon compound from Claim 1.